STATE OF COLORADO

West - DNR, Lucas <lucas.west@state.co.us>

C-1981-035 King June 2025 OSMRE Oversight Partial Inspection Report

1 message

West - DNR, Lucas <lucas.west@state.co.us> Wed, Jun 11, 2025 at 11:31 AM
To: McCourt Jordan <jmccourt@gcc.com>, Wymore Wade <wwymore@gcc.com>, "Monroy, Andrew E" <amonroy@osmre.gov>, Clayton Wein - DNR <clayton.wein@state.co.us>, DNR DRMS_CoalAdmin - DNR <dnr_drms_coal_admin@state.co.us>

Good Afternoon All,
Please find the attached Inspection Report from our OSM Oversight of a Partial Inspection last week. Everything on site looked good and no maintenance items were noted. Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns. Thanks,
Lucas

Lucas West
Environmental Protection Specialist
Minerals Program, Grand Junction Field Office

COLORADO
Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety
Department of Natural Resources

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C-1981-035 June 2025 OSMRE Oversight Partial Inspection Report.pdf
3046K

COLORADO
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PERMIT INFORMATION

Permit Number: C-1981-035 **Mine Name:** King Coal Mine **Operator:** GCC Energy, LLC **Operator Address:** Mr Jordan McCourt 6473 County Road 120 Hesperus, CO 81326	**County:** La Plata **Operation Type:** Underground **Permit Status:** Active **Ownership:** Private
	Operator Representative Present: Jordan McCourt, Wade Wymore
Operator Representative Signature: (Field Issuance Only)	

INSPECTION INFORMATION

Inspection Start Date: June 3, 2025 **Inspection Start Time:** 08:26 **Inspection End Date:** June 3, 2025 **Inspection End Time:** 11:40	**Inspection Type:** Coal Partial Inspection **Inspection Reason:** OSM Oversight Inspection **Weather:** Clear
Joint Inspection Agency: OSMRE	**Joint Inspection Contacts:** Andrew Monroy
Post Inspection Agency: OSMRE	**Post Inspection Contacts:** Andrew Monroy
Inspector(s): Lucas West	**Inspector's Signature:** **Signature Date:**  6/11/2025

1313 Sherman St. Room 215
Denver, CO 80203
(303) 866-3567

Inspection Topic Summary
NOTE: **Y**=Inspected **N**=Not Inspected **R**=Comments Noted **V**=Violation Issued **NA**=Not Applicable

N - Air Resource Protection
N - Availability of Records
N - Backfill & Grading
R - Excess Spoil and Dev. Waste
N - Explosives
N - Fish & Wildlife
R - Hydrologic Balance
N - Gen. Compliance With Mine Plan
N - Other
N - Processing Waste
N - Roads
N - Reclamation Success
N - Revegetation
N - Subsidence
N - Slides and Other Damage
N - Support Facilities On-site
N - Signs and Markers
N - Support Facilities Not On-site
N - Special Categories Of Mining
N - Topsoil

COMMENTS

This was a partial inspection conducted by Lucas West of the Colorado Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety's Active Mines Program. This inspection was also an Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement (OSMRE) Partial Oversight Inspection. Andrew Monroy and Kyler Yingling represented OSMRE during the inspection. In addition to the Operator Representatives listed on Page one of this Report, Samantha Kretz of GCC and Michael Dickson of Summit Mining, a consultant for the Operator, accompanied the inspection.

The site was active the day of the inspection with trucks being loaded with coal at the King II Facility, and refuse compaction taking place at the King I facility. Twelve Photos accomapny this report to illustrate the current site conditions. The site was clear and slightly muddy from recent precipitation events prior to the inspection.

No maintenance items or possible violations were noted during this inspection.

EXCESS SPOIL and DEVELOPMENT WASTE – Rule 4.09
Placement; Drainage Control; Surface Stabilization:

During this inspection both the Upper and Lower Refuse Piles, (URP and LRP respectively) at the King I Facility were observed. The condition of the URP remains unchanged from the Division's previous inspections. The surface of the pile is well compacted with no evidence of settling, slumping or erosion having been noted. The stockpile of material at the East end of the refuse pile shows no signs of recent placement, nor signs of erosion or sediment transport. The stockpile and an example of the surface of the pile can be seen in Photo One. The outslopes of the pile at the West end have been recently compacted and are in good condition as seen in Photo Two. All observed condition of the Upper Refuse Pile appear to be consistent with the design specifications.

At the time of the inspection, material was actively being compacted on the Lower Refuse Pile (LRP). The material being compacted appeared to be consistent with the design specifications, and the previous layer appeared to be well compacted. The stockpile of material on the surface of the pad awaiting placement was also found to be in good condition. No evidence of significant erosion or sediment transport was noted. An example of the compacted surface as well as a partial view of the stockpile can be seen in Photo Three.

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 8
Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 3

HYDROLOGIC BALANCE - Rule 4.05
Drainage Control 4.05.1, 4.05.2, 4.05.3; Siltation Structures 4.05.5, 4.05.6; Discharge Structures 4.05.7, 4.05.10; Diversions 4.05.4; Effluent Limits 4.05.2; Ground Water Monitoring 4.05.13; Surface Water Monitoring 4.05.13; Drainage – Acid and Toxic Materials 4.05.8; Impoundments 4.05.6, 4.05.9; Stream Buffer Zones 4.05.18:

Additionally, the internal drainage control systems at King I and II as well as the stormwater controls at the Barn Area were observed as a part of this inspection.

At the King I facility the East Clear Water Ditch was observed from above the URP to its termination below the LRP. The ditch was found to be free from obstruction and appeared able to function as designed. Despite the recent precipitation events, no evidence of flow was noted. The shotcrete drop structure that connects the CWD from near the URP to below the LRP was found to be in good condition, no evidence of cracking or compromise was observed. An example of the CWD can be seen in Photo Four. The West CWD that lies to the West of the LRP before flowing into a culvert and joining the East CWD was also observed. It was noted to be free from obstruction and appeared to be able to function as designed. The other internal drainage controls mainly consist of culverts along the access roads, underdrains and open ditches that all report to the East and West Sediment Ponds near the entrance to the area. All observed culverts were clear, having showed evidence of recent maintenance. The open top ditches including Reaches 10 and 13 around the LRP appeared to be stable and in good condition. Examples of the clear culverts and ditches can be seen in Photos Five and Six respectively. The West Sediment Pond contained no water however did show signs of recent impoundment. The sediment levels in the ponds are below the cleanout elevations marked on the witness post, and no evidence of discharge was noted. The West Pond can be seen in Photo Seven. The East Sediment Pond contained a small amount of standing water, and similar to the West Pond, its sediment levels were below the cleanout elevations as seen in Photo Eight.

At the Barn Area, the storm water control sediment basin was observed. The basin was in good condition and appeared able to function as designed. Evidence of recent maintenance was observed via a small stockpile of cleaned out material. the small stockpile showed no evidence of erosion or sediment transport. The sediment basin and cleanout pile can be seen in Photo Nine.

At the King II Area, the internal sumps, conveyances and sediment pond were observed. The main sediment pond was found to contain standing water, with active inflow at the time of the inspection. The sediment levels in the pond were below the cleanout elevations marked on the witness post and no evidence of discharge was observed. The main sediment pond at the King II facility can be seen in Photo Ten. Throughout the site, several sumps are strategically located to convey surface runoff to the sediment pond. All sumps were found to be free from obstruction and able to function as designed. an example of the sumps can be seen in Photo Eleven. The other internal drainage structures such as culverts and open topped ditches throughout the site were also found to be free flowing with no obstructions. All observed systems appeared to be functioning as designed and were in good condition. Also observed was the fuel and hazardous materials storage area shown in Photo Twelve. All materials were stored on appropriate spill pallets or within secondary containment structures and the area was very neat and well kept. No evidence of leaks or spills was noted.

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PHOTOGRAPHS

Photo One: View Southeast, showing the material stockpile and surface of the Upper Refuse Pile at the King I Facility.

Photo Two: View South, showing the out slope of the URP at the King I Facility. The slopes have been recently compacted, and no evidence of erosion was noted.

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Photo Three: View North, showing the compacted surface and stockpile of material on the Lower Refuse Pile at the King I Facility.

Photo Four: View East, showing an example of the East Clear Water Ditch above the Upper Refuse Pile at King I. The ditch is in excellent condition and appeared to be able to function as designed.

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Photo Five: View Northeast, showing an example of one of the culverts along the access road between the Upper and Lower Refuse Piles. All observed culverts were found to be clear and well maintained.

Photo Six: View Southeast, showing an example of one of the internal drainage controls. Specifically, Reach 13 which conveys stormwater around the East side of the Lower Refuse Pile.

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Photo Seven: View Northwest, showing the West Sediment Pond at King I. The pond contained no standing water and sediment levels are below the cleanout elevations on the witness post.

Photo Eight: View North, showing the East Sediment Pond at King I. The East pond contained standing water, but no evidence of discharge was noted.

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Photo Nine: View Southeast, showing the sediment basin and small cleanout pile at the Barn Area. The basin is in good condition and appears able to function as designed.

Photo Ten: View North, showing the main sediment pond at the King II Facility. The pond contained more standing water that typical in response to recent precipitation events, however no evidence of discharge was noted.

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Photo Eleven: Northeast, showing an example of one of the internal sumps that collects runoff and conveys it to the main sediment pond via underground pipes and open topped ditches. The sump was free from obstruction and able to function as designed..

Photo Twelve: View Southeast, showing the fuel and hazardous materials storage area. All items stored in this area had proper secondary containment, is neat, orderly and well kept.

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